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AGE OF ULTRON
BOOK THREE

PREVIOUSLY IN AGE OF ULTRON...

YEARS AGO, FOUNDING AVENGER HENRY PYM INVENTED THE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE KNOWN AS ULTRON.

ONCE ULTRON BECOME SELF-AWARE HE DEDICATED HIS LIFE TO PURIFYING THE EARTH OF THE HUMAN CONDITION. ALTHOUGH THE AVENGERS ALWAYS FOUND A WAY TO DEFEAT ULTRON, THERE WERE THOSE WHO WARNED THAT WITH HIS CONTINUOUS EVOLUTION, HE WOULD EVENTUALLY FIND A WAY TO DESTROY US.

THAT DAY HAS COME.

MANY WERE KILLED. THE HEROES WHO SURVIVED HAVE MOVED UNDERGROUND TO AVOID ULTRON'S PATROLS. WHILE ON A PATROL MISSION, HAWKEYE RESCUED SPIDER-MAN, WHO REVEALED THAT CRIMINALS HAMMERHEAD AND THE OWL HAD PLANNED TO SELL HIM TO ULTRON.

BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS	BRYAN HITCH	PAUL NEARY	PAUL MOUNTS	VC'S CORY PETIT	HITCH, NEARY & MOUNTS	IN-HYUK LEE; ROCK-HE KIM
WRITER	PENCILER	INKER	COLORIST	LETTERER	COVER ART	VARIANT COVERS

JAKE THOMAS & JOHN DENNING	TOM BREVOORT WITH LAUREN SANKOVITCH	AXEL ALONSO	JOE QUESADA	DAN BUCKLEY	ALAN FINE
ASSISTANT EDITORS	EDITORS	EDITOR IN CHIEF	CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER	PUBLISHER	EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

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GEEZ.
KEEP IT TOGETHER, SHE-HULK.
SURE.
BECAUSE THAT'S AN APPROPRIATE RESPONSE TO THE END OF THE WORLD.

SEE ANYTHING?
NO.
YOU READY?
DO IT.
DON'T BRACE YOURSELF, GO LIMP.
HOW ABOUT WE SWITCH?
NOT THE PLAN.
JUST DO IT.
CRUNCH

HUP.
"WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE US DO?"

HOW ABOUT EVERYONE GETS OFF THEIR BUTTS, DUST OFF, SHAKE IT OFF, AND LET'S FIGHT BACK.
UNDERGROUND.
AN HOUR AGO.
IF ONLY IT WERE THAT EASY. IF ONLY THERE WERE MORE OF US LEFT. BUT WITHOUT SCOTT...
THOR.
HULK.
BENJAMIN.
LUKE...
JESSICA AND THE BABY?

I--I DIDN'T KNOW.
BUT THAT WAS BEFORE WE KNEW THE ROBOT WAS ACCEPTING TRADE.
LET'S GIVE HIM SOMETHING TO BARTER WITH.
BARTER FOR WHAT?
TELL HIM AGAIN, SPIDER-MAN.
THE OWL AND THE OTHER LOSER MADE IT PRETTY CLEAR THAT THEY GOT PERMISSION TO GO ABOUT THEIR BUSINESS AS LONG AS THEY MADE PAYMENTS.
AND THE PAYMENTS WERE GUYS LIKE US... ME.
NO ONE'S ANSWERED MY EARLIER QUESTION: WHY WOULDN'T THIS ROBOT WIPE JUST ABOUT EVERYBODY OUT...?
WHY GO TO ALL THE TROUBLE TO RUIN THE WORLD?
EXACTLY!
DOING *THIS* MUCH DAMAGE...
AND NOW IT'S PLAYING MONOPOLY WITH LOW RENTERS?
YES.
AND I'LL TELL YOU EXACTLY WHY...

ULTRON WAS CREATED TO HAVE HUMAN NEEDS AND DESIRES.
EVEN THOUGH I BELIEVE ALL THAT IT IS DOING IS REPLICATING WHAT IT THINKS "NEEDS AND DESIRES" ARE.
SO IDEAS LIKE REVENGE, TORTURE, HATE...ALL THESE QUOTE-UNQUOTE ILLOGICAL IDEAS.
IT'S PROGRAMMED IN HIM. HE TAUGHT HIMSELF TO ACT THIS WAY.
SO, LET'S SAY HE WON.
HE BEAT US. HE TOOK THE WORLD...
MAYBE IT'S NOT ENOUGH.
LET'S SAY HE "WON."
AND CAN I JUST SAY SCREW HANK PYM FOR INVENTING ULTRON IN THE FIRST PLACE?
IT'S NOT HIS FAULT.
WHAT?!
IT'S NOT HANK PYM'S FAULT FOR CREATING ULTRON? WHOSE IS IT?
IT'S NOT MY FAULT.
IT'S NOT HIS FAULT.
IT AIN'T HER FAULT.
WHOSE FAULT DO WE THINK IT--
OKAY OKAY...
I DON'T GET YOU AT ALL, STARK.
I GO OUT TO SAVE SPIDEY'S BUTT, YOU ALL ACT LIKE I'VE TAKEN A DUMP IN THE POOL...
PYM INVENTS THE THING THAT SHUTS DOWN THE WORLD--DOES ALL THIS--AND YOU'RE ALL "WELL, HE DIDN'T MEAN IT."
NONE OF THAT MATTERS NOW!
IT'S TIME TO MAKE A PLAN!
IF THE ROBOT IS BUYING AND TRADING FOR GUYS LIKE US...
LET'S SELL HIM ONE OF US.

AND SEE HOW FAR ONE OF US CAN GET INTO ULTRON'S WORLD.
GRAB INTEL.
MAYBE DO SOME REAL DAMAGE.
IT'S BALLSY.
THE ROBOT MIGHT NOT KNOW HOW TO REACT TO IT.
IT WOULD HAVE TO BE SOMBODY WHO CAN TAKE THE PUNISHMENT.
STURDY.
INDESTRUCTIBLE.
I'LL GO.
I GOT UNBREAKABLE SKIN, JENNIFER. I'LL GO.
SO DO I, AND I'M STRONGER.
DEBATABLE.
I'M A HULK.
TONY STARK IS ABOUT TO TELL YOU: NEITHER OF YOU IS GOING.
IT'S NOT A PLAN...IT'S HALF A PLAN.
IT'S NOT WORTH ANOTHER LIFE.

WELL, I'M NOT SITTING HERE ONE SECOND LONGER.
I'LL GO.
IT MAKES THE MOST SENSE.
I WANT TO DO THIS.
FINE.
I'LL BE THE ONE WHO SELLS YOU.
NO, THAT'LL BE ME.
YOU? YOUR LEG ISN'T EVEN HEALED YET.
THREE DAYS AGO IT WAS COMPLETELY GONE.
IT'S DOING PRETTY GOOD, ALL THINGS CONSIDERED.
WOLVERINE, WITH YOUR ADAMANTIUM-LACED BONES, YOU ARE PROBABLY WORTH MORE TO ULTRON THAN ANY OF US.
YOUR UNBREAKABLE BONES ARE MADE OUT OF THE SAME MATERIAL AS HIS FRAME.
HE NEEDS YOUR ADAMANTIUM.
HE WILL FLAY YOU ALIVE THE SECOND HE SEES YOU, STRIP YOU FOR PARTS AND WHO KNOWS WHAT ELSE.
EXACTLY RIGHT.
YOU TWO AGREEIN' WITH EACH OTHER, IT IS THE END OF THE WORLD!
OKAY, SO LISTEN...

I KNOW SOME OF YOU DON'T CARE FOR THIS PLAN, BUT SPIDEY, WHATEVER HE SAID HIS REAL NAME IS, IS RIGHT: WE HAVE TO TRY.
WE'RE GOING TO GO IN AND DO THE BEST WE CAN.
BUT OBVIOUSLY, IF BY SOME MIRACLE WE DO MAKE IT OUT THE OTHER SIDE, WE SURE AS HELL WON'T BE ABLE TO COME BACK HERE.
WE'LL MEET YOU AT ANOTHER POINT.
WHERE DO WE GO?
THE MUTATE VILLAGE IN THE SAVAGE LAND.
THERE WILL HOPEFULLY BE ENOUGH VEGETATION AND SUPPLIES TO GET US BACK ON OUR FEET.
IF THERE STILL IS A SAVAGE LAND.
ALRIGHT THEN.

I HAVE A HULK.

I WANT TO TRADE.

CHICAGO.
THIS AIR IS POISON.
I ASKED YOU A QUESTION.
NOTHING YET, PANTHER.
WE CAN'T BE EXPOSED THIS LONG.
I'M DOING THE BEST I CAN, DAVE.
MY NAME ISN'T DAVE, TASKMASTER.
WELL, I'M NOT CALLING YOU RED HULK, SO I'VE DECIDED TO CALL YOU DAVE.
HURRY UP.
HOLD ON...

HOLD ON...
THERE.
1.2 MILES AWAY.
GO!

RRAUGHH!

HE DID IT.
COME ON...COME ON...
HE WASN'T QUICK ENOUGH.
DAMN IT.
TAKE IT AND GO!
GO!

ARGH!

AGH!

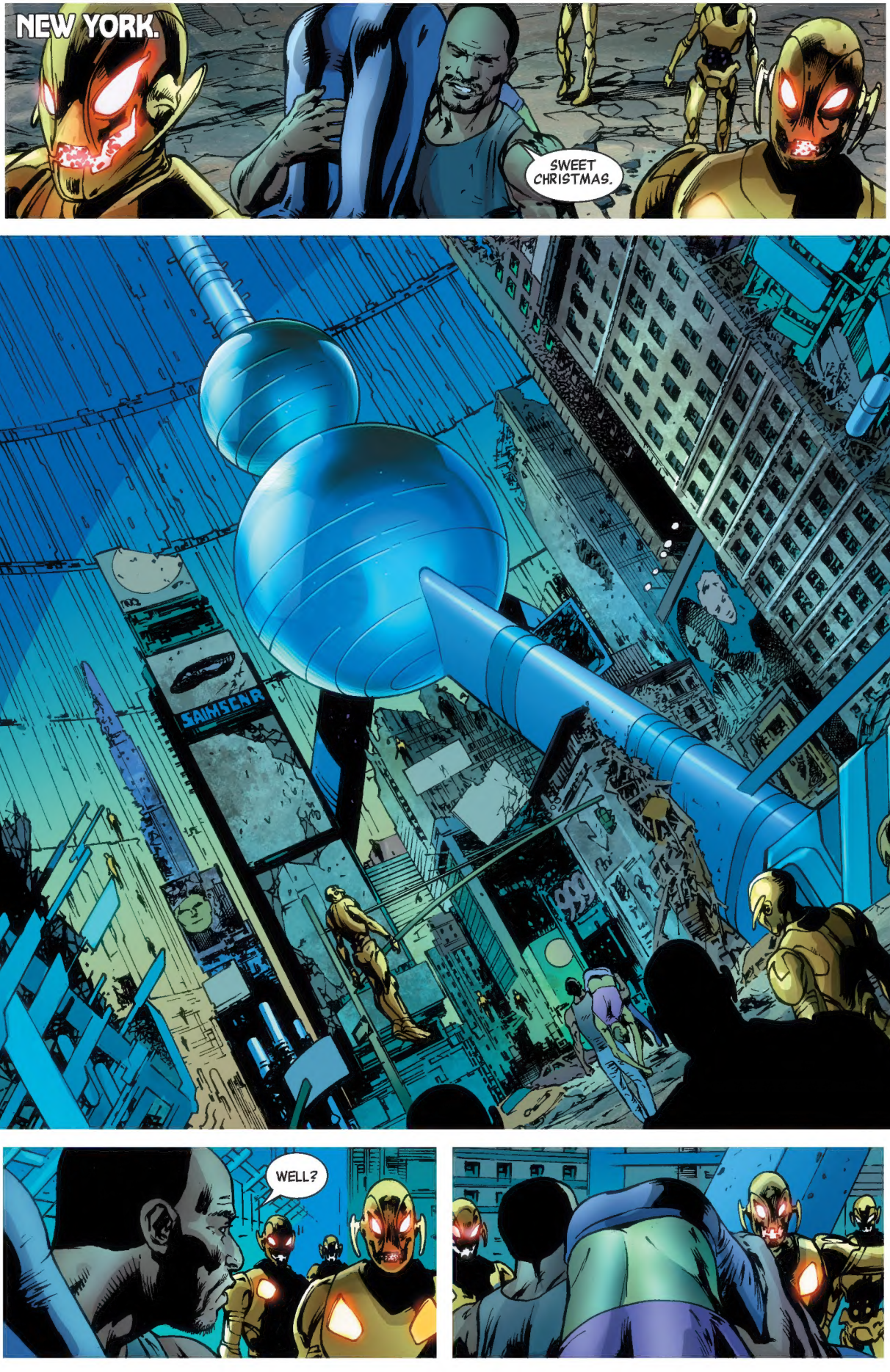
CLUMP

CRACK

CLAMP

COME ON!

WE HAVE TO KEEP--


NEW YORK.
SWEET CHRISTMAS.
SAMSON
WELL?

OH, NO...
IT'S--
IT'S NOT ULTRON.

TO BE CONTINUED!

NEXT:

BAD VISIONS!